

Notable Publications Using Census Bureau RDC Microdata

Andrew Bernard et al. "The Margins of U.S. Trade." *Amer Economic Rev*, May 2009.

Susan Chen and Wilbert van der Klaauw. "The Work Disincentive Effects of the Disability Insurance Program in the 1990s." *Journal of Econometrics*, February 2008.

Glenn Ellison et al. "What Causes Industry Agglomeration? Evidence from Coagglomeration Patterns." *Amer Economic Rev*, forthcoming.

Lucia Foster et al. "Reallocation, Firm Turnover, and Efficiency: Selection on Productivity or Profitability?" *Amer Economic Rev*, March 2008.

Luis Garicano and Thomas Hubbard. "Managerial Leverage Is Limited by the Extent of the Market: Theory and Evidence From the Legal Services Industry." *J Law and Economics*, February 2007.

Judith Hellerstein and David Neumark. "Workplace Segregation in the United States: Race, Ethnicity, and Skill." *Rev Economics and Statistics*, August 2008.

Thomas J. Holmes. "The Location of Sales Offices and the Attraction of Cities." *J Political Economy*, June 2005.

Vojislav Maksimovic and Gordon Phillips. "The Industry Life Cycle and Acquisitions and Investment: Does Firm Organization Matter?" *J Finance*, April 2008.

Chad Syverson and Ali Hortaçsu. "Cementing Relationships." *J Political Economy*, April 2007.

Alice Zawacki et al. "Older Workers' Access to Employer-Sponsored Retiree Health Insurance, 2000–2006." *J of Labor Research*, May 2009.

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For more information, visit the Census Bureau's Center for Economic Studies Web site at www.ces.census.gov.

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U.S. Census Bureau Research Data Centers



U S C E N S U S B U R E A U
Helping You Make Informed Decisions

U.S. Census Bureau Research Data Centers

Research Data Centers (RDCs) offer qualified researchers restricted access to economic and demographic data not otherwise made available publicly by the Census Bureau from its surveys and censuses. The RDCs are established through partnerships between the Census Bureau's Center for Economic Studies and academic and nonprofit research organizations.

The data available at RDCs are unique—they will allow examination of research questions not answerable by public microdata or aggregate statistics.

"What we need is more empirical work. . . . This greater availability of data [through the Center for Economic Studies] and the encouragement given to all researchers working on the institutional structure of production by the award to me of the Nobel Prize, should result in a reduction in that elegant but sterile theorizing so commonly found in the economics literature on industrial organization and should lead to studies which increase our understanding of how the real economic system works."
Ronald Coase, 1991 Nobel Prize Winner in Economics.

Datasets Currently Available

- Most economic censuses and surveys.
- Selected demographic surveys and decennial censuses.
- Special files created for research purposes:
 - Longitudinal Research Database
 - Longitudinal Business Database
 - Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Database
 - Other linked files.

Bring additional microdata into an RDC and create your own linked files, or simply reimburse the Census Bureau when it creates new special purpose files. In turn, these linked and special purpose files will be made available to all users.

Proposals Must Meet Five Standards

- 1 Benefit to Census Bureau programs.
- 2 Scientific merit.
- 3 Clear need for nonpublic data.
- 4 Feasibility.
- 5 No risk of disclosure.

If all standards are met, a proposal must also pass a review by the Census Bureau's Office of Analysis and Executive Support. If approved by the Census Bureau, the proposal may also require approval by the federal agency sponsoring the survey or supplying the administrative data.

"The Center for Economic Studies [has] developed and sponsored research on U.S. business dynamics that has revolutionized the way economists think about and study the U.S. economy." John C. Haltiwanger, Professor of Economics at the University of Maryland.

Some Recent Research Topics

- The impact of trade.
- Venture capital financing.
- Rural entrepreneurs.
- Migration in the Arctic.
- Welfare reform and migration.
- Temporary help agencies.

Work Environment

RDCs are Census Bureau facilities staffed by a Census Bureau employee and meet all the physical and computer security requirements for restricted access.

Each researcher must undergo a background check to become a Special Sworn Status employee of the Census Bureau. Researchers are not permitted to remove anything at all from the RDC unless it passes a disclosure avoidance review.

There are currently thirteen main and branch locations in the Census Bureau RDC network.